

# Tribal Consult



Greg Haller  
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06/13/02 02:02 PM

To: Bob Heinith <HEIB@critfc.org>  
cc: Marylou Soscia/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, LORT@critfc.org,  
carlmerkle@ctuir.com, jthomas@yakama.com, ricke@nezperce.org,  
jamied@nezperce.org

Subject: Re: June 27 TMDL Meeting in Boise ???

Hi Mary Lou.

I would like to invite you to Lapwai to begin consultation on the temperature TMDL. John Iani has been here once before and I gave him a presentation on Gov't. to Gov't. consultation as it relates to approving the TMDL for Snake-HC and Columbia-Snake TMDL. It is imperative that NPT staff have thorough understanding of the technical issues so that we may prepare NPTEC. To that end, I am requesting that you give NPT the same technical assistance you have offered to the Colville's and Spokane's. At this time, I don't believe we really understand where EPA is headed with the temperature TMDL and with the issues Bob raised in his e-mail to you. I have been working with Don Martin on the Snake-HC

TMDL and he understands the protocols and order of events that need to occur for consultation before EPA approves that TMDL. You may want to talk with him about this. I know you are busy working with the Colville and Spokane tribes but I hope you, EPA technical staff, and John Iani will make the time to meet with us. Please let me know when you think it would be possible to sit down, face to face, to discuss technical issues and then we will plan for Gov't to Gov't meetings from there.

We recently hired another person to help with mainstem water quality issues so we should be better able to participate in the process.

Thanks, Mary Lou.

-Greg

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Bob Heinith wrote:

> Hi Mary Lou-

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> Thanks for your reply and information.

> I realize that we have the same goals but you are more constrained in your federal family position than I am in advocating improvements. I appreciate your efforts to bring our tribes into line with EPA's mainstem temperature TMDL process, but I feel in talking with our tribal folks that we do not have a clear understanding what the process is or where it is going, how it relates to the CWA case, Corps capital construction priorities, ect. There is a lot going on, but we need to connect on these issues in the near future. We need to sit down and discuss these issues, face to face. Please let me know when we can schedule such a meeting, I'm open the first two weeks in July except the 4th.

>

> >>> <Soscia.Marylou@epamail.epa.gov> 06/12 5:32 PM >>>

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> Bob:

>

> I am sorry we cannot work closer together on water quality improvements  
> for the Columbia and Snake Mainstem.

> I know that you and I have the same goals for the Columbia River.  
> I feel that if we had a chance to work together we might get something  
> accomplished.  
> Instead you criticize my work and you never ever take the time to sit  
> down with me and figure out how to move forward.  
> That is quite unfortunate.  
>  
> EPA is working individually with the tribes on our consultation  
> responsibilities. We are working very closely with the Spokanes and  
> Colvilles on the Temperature TMDL and have had a number of meetings with  
> them and we have some future technical assistance we are providing to  
> them to assist them in understanding the temperature TMDL.  
>  
> If the other tribes have those requests they can surely get them to us  
> and we can figure out a way to get them the technical assistance they  
> need. The monthly meetings also provide a good way to keep up on what  
> is going on. I invite staff from all 14 tribes and we sometimes have  
> representatives from the different tribes attend.  
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> We are planning a meeting(s) with the tribes before we issue the Draft  
> Temperature TMDL. I will be sure to invite you to that meeting.  
>  
> I hope this information is helpful.  
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> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
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> <http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/columbiainstemtmdl.htm>  
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> Bob Heinith  
> <HEIB@critfc.org> To: Marylou  
Soscia/R10/USEPA/US@EPA  
>  
> CC:  
> 06/12/02 10:28 AM Subject: Re: June 27 TMDL  
Meeting in Boise ???  
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> Mary Lou- this date conflicts with another meeting already scheduled.  
> I'm checking with my tribal folks to see if someone can make it. At  
> this time we feel very much in the dark where the mainstem temperature  
> TMDL is going and we need to get up to speed. By the way, I enjoyed  
> your deposition on the SR CWA case.  
>  
> >>> <Soscia.Marylou@epamail.epa.gov> 06/11 9:50 AM >>>  
> At the May TMDL meeting we decided to have the June 27 meeting in Boise.  
> This meeting will discuss the load allocations for the TMDL and the  
> schedule for the previously planned August workshops.

> I am interested in finding out who may be able to attend the meeting in  
> person.  
> Can you please RSVP to me by 12 noon tomorrow to let me know if you  
> will attend in person?

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